

The Messenger

The Church Magazine of
St Peter's Church, Darwen

All are welcome in this place



Melissa and Tom's Wedding 12th July 2025

September 2025 Price £1 (unless prepaid)

ST PETER'S CHURCH DARWEN
BANK STREET, DARWEN BB3 3HE

VICAR

Rev Alison Mitchell
The Vicarage (also known as the Rectory)
2 St Peter's Close
Darwen BB3 2EA
rev.alison@stpeterschurchdarwen.org
07540 792409

PARISH OFFICE

Tel. 01254 703929
(Phone messages are currently picked up
on Sundays, Wednesdays, and some
Saturdays, but e-mail messages to
stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com
are checked daily)

SERVICES

SUNDAY

10.00am Sung Eucharist

WEDNESDAY

10.00am Eucharist

We welcome visitors to our Church - Church is open:

SUN: Church open from 9.00am to 11.30am
Refreshments are usually served after the services

WED: Church open 8.45am - 11.30am
9.00am Morning Prayers 10.00am Eucharist
Refreshments are usually served after the service

**(At Christmas and Easter and on some other occasions alterations
to these times may occur)**

**Details of additional services, events and activities at church each
week can be found in our weekly Notice sheet, on 'A Church Near
You', and also on our Facebook page, which has a daily update.**

Contents

Church Diary	Page 4
Rev Alison's letter for September	Page 6
Church Flowers and Darwen Food Larder	Page 8
Anniversaries this month	Page 9
Enquiries	Page 11
Church Directory	Page 12

Church Charity for September and October -



With over 45 years' experience the Alzheimer's Society is uniquely placed to provide support to those who need it, fund ground-breaking research and campaign to make dementia a priority.

To contact them -

Phone - 0333 150 3456

or visit the website - alzheimers.org.uk

Diary for September 2025

- 1st 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 2nd 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
12.00pm Bible Study
(No Evening Bible Study and Eucharist this week)
- 3rd 9.00am Morning Prayer in church
10.00am Eucharist
- 4th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 5th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
1.00pm Renewal of Wedding Vows -
Beth and Grant
- 6th 6.00pm - Melissa and Tom's Wedding movie night
- 7th **The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**
10.00am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church
- 8th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 9th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
12.00pm Bible Study
6.30pm Bible Study and Eucharist
- 10th 9.00am Morning Prayer in church
10.00am Eucharist - Rev Jane Bury
- 11th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 12th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 14th **The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity -**
Rev Jane Bury
10.00am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church

- 15th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 16th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
(no Bible Study this lunchtime)
6.30pm Bible Study and Eucharist
- 17th 9.00am Morning Prayer in church
10.00am Eucharist - Rev Jane Bury
- 18th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 19th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 21st Feast of St Matthew**
10.00am Service of the Word with Junior Church,
led by Adam Conley ALM
- 22nd 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 23rd 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
(no Bible Study this lunchtime)
6.30pm Bible Study and Eucharist
- 24th 9.00am Morning Prayer in church
10.00am Eucharist - Rev Jane Bury
- 25th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 26th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 28th The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**
10.00am - Sung Eucharist - Family Service
12.00pm Holy Baptism - Oscar
- 29th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 30th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
12.00pm Bible Study
6.30pm Bible Study and Eucharist

Rev Alison's letter for September

Dear Friends,

September always feels like a month of turning pages.
Of finding your September fresh start!

The long, lazy days of summer give way to the first hints of autumn. The mornings are cooler, the evenings draw in, and hedgerows begin to change colour. Children head back to school with new shoes and sharpened pencils. Adults return to busier routines. The holiday mood fades, and the pace of life picks up again.

For some, this feels energising – full of fresh starts and new opportunities. For others, it's tinged with reluctance as we swap sandals for schedules. Either way, September has a way of making us look ahead.

In the Christian calendar, 21st September is the day we remember Matthew – best known as one of the authors of the four Gospels in the Bible. But Matthew's story didn't begin in a holy place; it began at a desk. He was a tax collector, a job that in his time was mistrusted and disliked. Then, one ordinary day, Jesus simply said to him, 'Follow me.' And Matthew got up, left his desk, and started a new chapter in his life.

You don't have to share Matthew's faith to see the power in that moment. Sometimes, life nudges us to make a change – whether it's big or small – and the first step is simply saying 'Yes' to it. It might be a new job, a new friendship, a healthier routine, or even just a different way of looking at life. Often, it's the small changes that make the biggest difference.

So perhaps September is a chance to ask yourself:

What do I want to take with me from the slower pace of summer?

Is there something I could let go of to make life simpler?

Is there a new direction - however small - I'm ready to explore?

It might be as simple as taking a short walk at lunchtime to notice the changing seasons. It might be reconnecting with someone you've lost touch with. It might be deciding to keep one evening a week free for yourself. Or it might be daring to start something completely new.

For me, who was once a teacher, I like September because it feels like a clean sheet of paper. Starting a new year. Events and services will be planned. Harvest is on the horizon, when we give thanks for the good things we've been given and look for ways to share them with others. You don't have to be a regular churchgoer to be a part of this – we're all in this community together.

We also have an exciting event on FRIDAY 28th NOVEMBER. The Eden singers will perform a new, wonderful, modern musical adaptation of the Christmas story. It will start at 7pm. Tickets will be £7 which includes a drink and a mince pie (or jam tart!). All the money collected will go towards the upkeep of the church. Please do come along, bring your friends, and let others know all about it.

So, whether you're picking up your work bag, waving the kids off at the school gate, or just noticing the first conkers falling, may this September be your chance to turn a page.

Who knows where your next chapter might lead?

With warm wishes as the seasons turn,

Alison.

CHURCH FLOWERS - SEPTEMBER

Thank you very much for the donations for flowers which have been received recently, they are very much appreciated. Esther



We are only a few weeks away now from our Harvest Festival, so donations for flowers to celebrate this great celebration of God's creation will be most welcome.

FOOD LARDER - SEPTEMBER



We will be very grateful for all the donations of food for our Harvest Festival services, which will be promptly passed on to the Food Larder and others in need.

Whilst we have a lot of bottles of conditioner in our store, we have very few bottles of ordinary shampoo! Any donations of ordinary shampoo will be much appreciated.

Anniversaries we remember in September



2nd Jean Auckland

7th Brian Taylor Frank Long

9th Harry Basnett

15th Marlene Buck

16th Marsden Drinkwater

18th Mildred Ludlow

20th Robert Mares Frank Grime

George Tweedale

24th John Harwood Kevin Buck

28th Alan Wilkinson Michael Emery

29th John Hayes

31st Luke Brogden



Edwin Ainsworth Ltd

Independent Family Firm

Funeral Directors

The Oldest Business in Darwen
Est 1856



Church Bank Street, Darwen, BB3 3HA

01254 873290

www.funeraldirectorsdarwen.co.uk



Complete Funeral Service

Chapels of Rest

contact

Gregory and Patricia Dabrowski - Day or Night

ENQUIRIES

BAPTISM

Those who live in the Parish, and who can with any integrity make the affirmations of faith required within the Baptism Service, may have their child baptised at St Peter's. Baptisms are normally held by arrangement, but are usually on the second Sunday of the month at 12.30pm.

If you would like to arrange a baptism, please make contact with Rev Alison via rev.alison@stpeterschurchdarwen.org, or phone 07540 792409. Messages left for Alison on the office phone 01254 703929 will be passed on.

MARRIAGE

Those who live in the Parish, or are on the Electoral Roll of the Parish, are entitled to be married at St Peter's.

Anyone who would like to arrange a wedding, or the calling of Banns at St Peter's, is asked to make contact with the Vicar, Rev Alison.

CARE OF THE SICK

If you or a loved one are unable to be present at our Church services and would like to receive Communion at home, or if you want us to include someone's name on our sick list, please contact Rev Alison.

Rev Alison can be contacted in the following ways:

- by sending a message to her e-mail address rev.alison@stpeterschurchdarwen.org.
via a message to our church e-mail address stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com
- by phoning 07540 792409, or the Parish Office on 01254 702939 - any messages left will be passed on to her; or
- by speaking with her at church after one of our services.



Parish Office	01254 703929
Churchwarden	Elliott Walsh
Deputy Churchwarden	Tony Rivron
Authorised Lay Minister (ALM)	Adam Conley
Treasurer	Ian Riley
Stewardship Recorders	Alison and David
Gift Aid	Allison L
Under 18's and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Officer	Susan Toms e-mail - safeguarding@stpeterschurchdarwen.org
Pastoral Assistants	Zillah and Lynne
Organist and Choir Director	(vacancy)
Admin Assistant PCC Secretary Data Protection Lead and Electoral Roll Officer	Anne Carus



stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com

A Church Near You – [achurchnearyou.com/St Peters Darwen](http://achurchnearyou.com/St-Peters-Darwen)